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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Haifeng BI et al.

Appl. No. : 09/534,308

Filed : March 23, 2000

For : FAULT TOLERANT ATM-BASED DISTRIBUTED VIRTUAL
TANDEM SWITCHING SYSTEM AND METHOD



Group Art Unit: 2739

Examiner: Unknown

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97-1.98, applicants
call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent No. 5,991,301, to CHRISTIE, issued November 23, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,956,334, to CHU et al., issued September 21, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,953,316, to LAZAR et al., issued September 14, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,943,321, to ST-HILAIRE et al., issued August 24, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,914,956, to WILLIAMS, issued June 22, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,719,863, to HUMMEL, issued February 17, 1998;

U.S. Patent No. 5,703,876, to CHRISTIE, issued December 30, 1997;

U.S. Patent No. 5,568,475, to DOSHI et al., issued October 22, 1996; and

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Malik, O., "It's the Voice, Stupid", Forbes, Digital Tool, September 8, 1999.

The following patents and publications were cited in parent application no. 09/287,092:

U.S. Patent No. 5,260,978, to FLEISCHER et al., issued November 9, 1993;

U.S. Patent No. 5,363,369, to HEMMADY et al., issued November 8, 1994;

U.S. Patent No. 5,392,402, to ROBROCK, II, issued February 21, 1995;

U.S. Patent No. 5,434,854, to FOCARILE et al., issued July 18, 1995;

U.S. Patent No. 5,434,853, to HEMMADY et al., issued July 18, 1995;

U.S. Patent No. 5,438,565, to HEMMADY et al., issued August 1, 1995;

U.S. Patent No. 5,459,722, to SHERIF, issued October 17, 1995;

U.S. Patent No. 5,483,527, to DOSHI et al., issued January 9, 1996;

U.S. Patent No. 5,513,174, to PUNJ, issued April 30, 1996;

U.S. Patent No. 5,581,551, to FUNDNEIDER et al., issued December 3, 1996;

U.S. Patent No. 5,619,500, to HIEKALI, issued April 8, 1997;

U.S. Patent No. 5,638,365, to DUAULT et al., issued June 10, 1997;

U.S. Patent No. 5,710,769, to ANDERSON et al., issued January 20, 1998;

U.S. Patent No. 5,757,783, to ENG et al., issued May 26, 1998;

U.S. Patent No. 6,009,100, to GAUSMANN et al., issued December 28, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,867,571, to BORCHERING, issued on February 2, 1999;

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U.S. Patent No. 5,883,893, to RUMER et al., issued on March 16, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,623,491, to SKOOG, issued on April 22, 1997;

ATM Forum Technical Committee, "Circuit Emulation Service Interoperability Specification", Version 2.0, published January, 1997; and

ATM Forum Technical Committee, "Voice and Telephony Over ATM-ATM Trunking Using AAL1 for Narrowband Services", Version 1.0, published July, 1997.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above materials. Copies of the above-noted documents (except those cited in parent application) are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/576,036, filed May 23, 2000, entitled "ATM-Based Distributed Network Switching System";

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/562,725, filed May 1, 2000, entitled "ATM-Based Distributed Virtual Tandem Switching System; and

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U.S. Patent Application No. 09/487,869, filed January 20, 2000, entitled "System and Method for Measurement-Based Adaptive Caching of Virtual Connections."

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-mentioned applications are not attached. The Examiner is requested to review the file wrapper of these U.S. patent applications at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Of course, if for any reason the Examiner cannot locate any of the applications, applicants will provide any requested materials, if possible.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Haifeng BI et al.

Reg. No. 40,063

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce H. Bernstein".

Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

June 28, 2000
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